**Statement**

*Details of drought prone areas*

| Name of State | No. of Districts | No. of Blocks |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 8 | 69 |
| 2. Bihar | 7 | 54 |
| 3. Gujarat | 8 | 43 |
| 4. Haryana | 1 | 9 |
| 5. Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 13 |
| 6. Karnataka | 11 | 71 |
| 7. Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 49 |
| 8. Maharashtra | 12 | 74 |
| 9. Orissa | 4 | 39 |
| 10. Rajasthan | 9 | 30 |
| 11. Tamil Nadu | 7 | 43 |
| 12. Uttar Pradesh | 17 | 87 |
| 13. West Bengal | 3 | 34 |
| TOTAL : | 95 | 615 |

**Directions to take action against Corrupt Sarpanches**

1512. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any directions have been given to State Governments to take action against Sarpanches and other who have embezzled funds meant for J.R.Y.;

(b) the details of directions given by the Ministry;

(c) whether any State has refused to implement disciplinary proceedings against corrupt Panchayat officials responsible for misusing J.R.Y. funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is a decentralised programme of Rural employment implemented by about 450 District Rurai Development Agencies (DRDA)/Zilla *Tan*-shad (ZP) and 2,20,000 Gram Panchayats. In view of the large number of agencies planning and implementing the programme, safeguards have been provided under the JRY manual, to ensure that

funds are properly utilised for the pur-pose for which they are allotted. In addititn, directions have been given to the State Governments, DRDAs/ZPs and village Panchayats in regard *to* the system of checks and balances to be followed under JRY to minimise the misappropriation/misutilisation of JRY fun*ds.* The account of DRDAs/ZPs/ village Panchayats are subjected to a regular audit. The release of second instalment of funds under JRY to any district is made only after the audit report for the year before the previous year is submitted to the Government of India.

Further, the State Governments, have been directed to draw up a programme of inspection of JRY works by senior officers, from the State/Distriot/Block level who are required to inspect the works in the village/district at a frequency decided by the State Level Coordination Committee and take necessary action not only to improve the quality of work but also to punish those responsible for any irregularity. Directions have also been given to the Project Directors, DRDAs, during the annual workshops, to deal firmly with the case of misappropriation, and embezzlement of funds etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise

**Identification of corrupt Gram Panchayats by collectors**

1513. SHRI V. HANNUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Collectors in different States have taken the lead in identifying corrupt Gram Panchayats which have not properly used the J.R.Y. funds;

(b). whether the Ministry has sought till date any report frami any Collector or States on how many Panchayats or their Sarpanches have prima facie indulged in misappropriation of J.R.Y. funds in 1992-93;

(c) whether any effort has been made by the Ministry to adopt a more serious approach in monitoring the scheme;

(a) whether it is a fact that no officials of the Ministry has visited any district headquarters in Andhra Pradesh to study this problem; and

(e) what steps are being taken to issue strict guidelines to Collectors *to* unearth and punish erring and corrupt Panchayats and Sarpanches in the matter of J.R.Y. funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Regular monitoring of the scheme is insisted upon through Monthly, Quar terly and Annual Progress Reports. Fur ther, before the release of second instal ment of the JRY funds for a district the Government insists among other things on (i) Utilisation of at least 50 per cent of the available funds (ii) Utilisation cer tificate and (iii) Audit Report for the year before the previous year. Also the Ministry has designated an Area Offi cer for each State to review and inspect Rural Development works m that State.

(d) No, Sir. The Area Officer for Andhra Pradesh as well as other section officers from the Ministry of Rural Development have visited a few districts in Andhra Pradesh to review the progress of works under IRY, identify the problems in implementation and suggest steps for improvement in performance.

(e) JRY guidelines already provide that at the district level, the entire work relating to coordination, review, supervision and monitoring of the program-me will be the responsibility of the District Collectors/District Rural Development Agencies/Zilla Parishads as decided by the State Government. In addition the Government of India have been issuing instructions to the